

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the owners' interests and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter, not to mention a more fair distribution of representative points of view.

Sinclair, Inc.'s actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership diversity rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard (or a form email message, for that matter...) Thank you. Sincerely, James Williamson